



Next step in proposed South Mountain Freeway

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A 20 plus year old project that would ease traffic congestion in Phoenix is slowly moving forward. The [Arizona](#) Department of Transportation is taking another step forward in the proposed South Mountain Loop 202 freeway. The freeway would run along Pecos just east of I-10 south of Phoenix and along the Gila River Indian Community before meeting 55th Avenue along I-10 in west Phoenix.

ADOT is in the process of starting an impact study on the area. Gila River has maintained opposition to the freeway being built on the reservation. However, they recently gave the state permission to conduct it's study on tribal land, but this does not mean they're going to allow the project in their community.

A tribal spokesperson says they have questions on the impact the freeway would have on their land since it borders it. That is the reason why they allowed the one year access to their land for the study. Some of the possible impacts ADOT and the tribe will look at include traffic, environment, and cultural sites.

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